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## South Florida Water Management District

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### **BIG CYPRESS BASIN BOARD MINUTES**

April 21, 2015

9:00 AM

Collier County Government Center  
Commission Chamber, 3rd Flr  
3299 Tamiami Trail East, Naples, FL 34112

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
John Vaughn		Present	
Rick Barber	Chair	Present	
David Farmer		Present	
Alice J. Carlson		Present	
Ralph H. Haskins		Present	
Marielle Kitchener		Present	

- 1. Call to Order - Frederick Barber, Chairman, Big Cypress Basin Board**  
Mr. Barber called the meeting to order at 9:04 am.
- 2. Invocation**  
Ananta Nath led the invocation.
- 3. Pledge of Allegiance - Frederick Barber, Chairman, Big Cypress Basin Board**  
Mr. Haskins led the pledge of allegiance.
- 4. Employee Recognitions - Lisa Koehler, Administrator, Big Cypress Basin Service Center**  
Ms. Lisa Koehler, Big Cypress Basin Administrator introduced Melissa Roberts, the Lower West Coast Regulatory Administrator. Mr. Doherty introduced Brad Anderson, Crew Chief and Deanna Helms, Field Station Administrative Assistant.

**5. Approval of Minutes**

Minutes approved.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	David Farmer,
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Marielle Kitchener
<b>AYES:</b>	Vaughn, Barber, Farmer, Carlson, Haskins, Kitchener

**6. Agenda Addendum - Lisa Koehler, Administrator, Big Cypress Basin Service Center**

Ms. Koehler announced the changes to the agenda. Item #9 and #11 were pulled from the agenda and postponed to the July meeting.

**7. Abstentions by Board Members from items on the Agenda**

There were no abstentions.

**8. Update on Recent Projects for Corkscrew Regional Ecosystem Watershed land and Water Trust - Brenda Brooks**

Ms. Brenda Brooks, Executive Director, CREW, provided an update on recent projects for Corkscrew Regional Ecosystem Watershed Land and Water Trust (CREW). After a brief introduction of the CREW organization and its mission, she provided a breakdown of the four major CREW sections and an overview of the public outreach and environmental education programs, and the construction projects already completed or still under construction.

Mr. Steven Rapp, Eagle Scout from Troup #214, also a CREW volunteer, presented his special project called "A view for All " designed to give the same experience as being on the trail to people with physical disabilities and not able to have access to the trail.

**Board Questions**

In response to Mr. Vaughn's question, Ms. Brooks confirmed that guides would be available for sale.

Mr. Barber suggested to Mr. Bergstrom that another position to support CREW should be added in the future when the Flint Pen Strand comes on line.

**9. BCB Flood Protection Level of Service Project Scoping - Akin Owosina, Chief, Hydrology & Hydraulics Bureau**

This item was deleted from the agenda.

**10. Picayune Strand Restoration Project Update - Janet Starnes, Project Manager, Everglades Policy and Coordination**

Ms. Janet Starnes, Project Manager, Everglades Policy and Coordination, provided an updated on the Picayune Strand Restoration Project detailing the status of each project, including construction and testing schedules.

## **Board Questions**

In response to Mr. Farmer's question, Ms. Starnes explained the connection between Belle Meade and the Picayune Strand.

### **11. Capital Projects Update - Jeff Kivett, Division Director, Operations, Engineering and Construction**

This item was deleted from the agenda.

### **12. General Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

### **13. Technical Reports**

- A) Water Conditions Report - Mr. Nageon De Lestang provided a summary of the rainfall data and hydrology conditions for the Big Cypress Basin. His presentation included historical conditions versus current conditions and showed some afternoon thunderstorm activities during the month of April typical of summer season.

## **Board Questions**

In response to Mr. Barber's question, Mr. Nageon De Lestang addressed the influence of vegetation growth in the operation of the canal, which could affect canal conveyance and cause loss of capacity if not kept under control.

- B) Field Station Activity Report - Mr. Chris Doherty, Big Cypress Basin Field Station Superintendent, provided the BCB Field Station operation and management activities, including current workload.

## **Board Questions**

In response to Mr. Vaughn's question, Mr. Doherty replied that the cost to install security cameras, including all materials and labor was \$16,000.

In response to Mr. Barber's question, Mr. Doherty described the extent of vandalism.

### **14. Staff Reports**

- A) Basin Administrator Report - Ms. Lisa Koehler, Big Cypress Basin Administrator, announced that local government grants would be presented to the Board for recommendation at the July Board meeting.

Ms. Koehler congratulated Mr. Barber and Mr. Haskins for their Board reappointment, and reminded everyone that April was Water Conservation Month recognized by the City of Naples and Collier County with proclamations.

Ms. Koehler thanked all volunteers for their participation to Keep Collier Beautiful and presented a video, provided by Mr. Zimmerman, of the April 11th event, when 100 volunteers removed a considerable amount of debris from our canal with the help of Collier County Code Enforcement staff and Palmetto Ridge High School.

**15. Board Comment**

Mr. Barber announced two milestones for the month of April: the Miller #3 Weir construction completion, and the ground breaking ceremony at the new field station site.

**16. Adjourn**

Mr. Barber announced the next Board meeting will be July 9.

Mr. Barber adjourned the meeting at 10:09 am.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Alice J. Carlson
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Marielle Kitchener
<b>AYES:</b>	Vaughn, Barber, Farmer, Carlson, Haskins, Kitchener



Frederick T. Barber, III  
Big Cypress Basin Board Chairman  
South Florida Water Management District



Lisa Koehler  
Big Cypress Basin Administrator  
South Florida Water Management District